

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING November 2, 2022 — MINUTES

Committee Members

Present

Mary Durham, Council Chair
Gladys Cortez
Eric Shahid
Lora Taylor
Kim Torres

Guests Present

Floyd Browning
Luz Freestone
Christine Reyes
Shelly Townsend

Staff Present

Beth Stalvey, Executive Director
Kai Brewer
Scott Daigle
Lauren Gerken
Sabrina Gonzalez
Genessee Klemm
Linda Logan
Evan Marczynski
Sylvia Medina
Richard Rendon
Mary Rochford
Fernando Rodriguez
Melanie Teague
Brianna TenBrink
Rey Valldejuli
Koren Vogel

Council Members Present

Ronnie Browning
Bill Coorsh
Maverick Crawford
Andrew Crim
Robert Schier III

Regional Coordinators

Present

Erin Fogarty
Morgan Foster
Rosa Guel
Canen Melton
Skyler Mueller
Shelby Vaughn

Call to Order

The Executive Committee of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, at the Royal Sonesta Houston Galleria, 2222 West Loop South, Houston, TX 77027 as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Council Chair Mary Durham called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. Introductions

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. Public Comments

No public comments were offered to the Committee.

3. Consideration of Minutes

The minutes were reviewed, and no additions or corrections were noted.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the August 3, 2022, Executive Committee meeting as presented.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Gladys Cortez

The motion **passed** unanimously. (November 2022 Meeting Materials, Tab 1)

4. **TCDD Quarterly Financial Report**

TCDD Finance and Grants Director Rey Valldejuli reviewed the Summary of Funds for FY 2021 – FY 2023 as well as projections for FY 2024 – 2026. Valldejuli reviewed the operating expenses and total grant expenses showing amounts obligated for each year as well as funds available for new grant projects. He also reported the stipend expenditures and individual expenses from current grantees.

5. **Continuation Grant Awards**

Chair Durham read a statement regarding Conflict of Interest prior to the consideration of funding for grant projects, reminding members, staff, and guests to excuse themselves from the conversation if a conflict of interest exists.

TCDD Grants Coordinator Richard Rendon presented the executive summary for the Leadership Development and Advocacy Training project at Children’s Disabilities Information Coalition.

MOTION: To approve up to \$123,961 in continuation grant funding to the Children’s Disabilities Information Coalition for the third year of a five-year Leadership Development and Advocacy Training project.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Eric Shahid

The motion **passed** unanimously. (November 2022 Meeting Materials, Tab 3)

Grants Coordinator Melanie Teague presented the executive summary for the Sexual Assault Response and Prevention project at West Central Texas Council of Governments.

MOTION: To approve up to \$145,327 in continuation grant funding to the West Central Texas Council of Governments for the third year of a five-year Sexual Assault Response and Prevention project.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez

SECOND: Kim Torres

The motion **passed** unanimously. (November 2022 Meeting Materials, Tab 3)

6. **New Grant Awards**

Chair Durham reminded members and guests of the Conflict of Interest statement before consideration of new grant awards.

TCDD Policy Analyst Linda Logan presented applications for the Accessible and Effective Treatment for Substance Use Disorders Among People with Developmental Disabilities project. One application was received and evaluated for funding by the peer review panel. The Council previously approved funding of \$150,000 per year for

up to five years for up to three projects. The purpose of this program is to promote statewide capacity building and systemic change improvements in the prevention, identification, and treatment of substance use disorders (SUD) and to increase the number of individuals with developmental disabilities (DD) receiving SUD services and supports from providers with expertise in the field.

MOTION: To award funding of up to \$143,160 to the University of North Texas Health Science Center for the first year of a five-year Substance Use Disorders Among People with Developmental Disabilities project.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez

SECOND: Kim Torres

The motion **passed** unanimously.

TCDD Policy Analyst Sabrina Gonzalez presented applications for Promoting Civic Engagement Among Individuals with Developmental Disabilities projects. Three applications were received and evaluated for funding by the peer review panel. The Council previously approved funding for up to \$100,000 per year, for up to four years, for one project. The purpose of this project is to develop training models, train at least 10 people with disabilities per year, develop reports of key findings, and create tool kits for future use by other organizations.

Applications were presented from Children’s Disabilities Information Coalition, Goodwill Industries of East Texas, and Project Amistad.

MOTION: To award funding of up to \$90,909 to Children’s Disabilities Information Coalition for the first year of a five-year Promoting Civic Engagement Among Individuals with Developmental Disabilities project.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Kim Torres

The motion **passed** unanimously.

TCDD Policy Analyst Lauren Gerken next presented applications for Equipping People with Disabilities to be Community Researchers in Participatory Action Research. Two applications were received and evaluated for funding by the peer review panel. The Council previously approved funding of up to \$150,000 per year, for up to three years, for up to two projects. The purpose of the project is to develop and demonstrate innovative, durable research skills development training models for persons with disabilities that can be replicated.

Applications were presented from disABILITYsa and Strategic Education Solutions.

MOTION: To award funding of up to \$150,000 each to disABILITYsa and Strategic Education Solutions for the first year of a three-year Equipping People with Disabilities to be Community Researchers in Participatory Action Research project.

MADE BY: Lora Taylor

SECOND: Kim Torres

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Gerken presented applications received for the Disability Cultural Humility for Elected Officials project. One application was received and evaluated for funding by the peer review panel. The Council previously approved funding of up to \$150,000 per year, for up to five years, for one project. The purpose of the project is to develop informational videos and materials as part of a comprehensive training program on engaging with the disability community for lawmakers and their staff members.

MOTION: To award funding of up to \$120,485 to Dallas MHMR/Metrocare for the first year of a five-year Disability Cultural Humility for Elected Officials project.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez

SECOND: Lora Taylor

The motion **passed** unanimously

7. **Grants Activities Reports**

Executive Director Beth Stalvey discussed the Grants Monitoring Report noting that 10 new projects started during the quarter, four projects ended during the quarter, and five projects are in the final year of funding. Nine projects will be considered for continuation funding at the February meeting.

Stalvey reviewed the Risk Assessment report which groups the grantees by risk level and lists the risk factors to determine each grantee's level. There are currently no projects considered to be in the high-risk category.

Stalvey reviewed the TCDD State Plan and Current Grantees Summary document. She also discussed the recent TCDD Grant Summit which provided training for grantees on topics such as compliance and reporting and allowed for networking opportunities among the grantees.

8. **Peer Review Panel Applicants**

TCDD Director of Community Engagement Genessee Klemm provided a summary of recent efforts to recruit potential Peer Review Panel members. She noted 10 additional names that were not received in time for consideration at the August meeting are presented for consideration. The Committee reviewed the list and questioned the reporting of one respondent credentials as a previous Council member.

MOTION: To approve all respondents except David Ramos to the pool of potential Review Panel Members.

MADE BY: Kim Torres

SECOND: Lora Taylor

The motion **passed** unanimously. (November 2022 Meeting Materials, Tab 6)

9. **Chair's Report**

Chair Durham reported the expected participation of Jonas Schwartz from the Texas Workforce Commission. Although Schwartz is not the designated representative, he is a former Council member and having been through orientation is eligible to vote. Durham also noted that Chimere Clemons has been designated as the alternate representative from Health and Human Services Older Americans Act Programs and Elizabeth Danner has been designated as the alternate representative from Texas Education Agency.

10. **Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Stalvey reported stipends were awarded during the quarter:

- Rio Grande Valley Down Syndrome Association: Events Stipend for up to \$6,912 for the "Better Together: Think Inclusion Conference" September 23-24, 2022, in Edinburg.
- Chrysalis Spectrum, LLC: Events Stipend for up to \$4,675 for the "Aging with a Disability: Embracing Life's Expected Transitions Conference" November 4, 2022, in Houston.
- Chrysalis Spectrum, LLC: Speakers Stipend for up to \$7,425 for the "Aging with a Disability: Embracing Life's Expected Transitions Conference" November 4, 2022, in Houston.
- Autism Society of El Paso: Translation Stipend for up to \$360 for the "Annual Autism Conference for Parents" October 14, 2022, in El Paso.
- Autism Society of El Paso: Events Stipend for up to \$3,750 for the "Annual Autism Conference for Parents" October 14, 2022, in El Paso.
- Autism Society of El Paso: Speakers Stipend for up to \$5,000 for the "Annual Autism Conference for Parents" October 14, 2022, in El Paso.
- Down Syndrome Association of Central Texas (DSACT): Speakers Stipend for up to \$3,371 for the "DSACT's Education Conference" October 3, 2022, in Austin.
- Lone Star College – Montgomery: Speakers Stipend for up to \$4,750 for the "Disabilities: Part of the Equity Equation Conference" October 19 and 25, 2022 and April 12 and 25, 2023, in Conroe.
- Harris County Department of Education: Speakers Stipend for up to \$5,860 for the "Art and Science of Handwriting Intervention" November 9, 2022, in Houston.
- Coalition of Texans with Disabilities: Speakers Stipend for up to \$2,000 for the "19th Annual Cinema Touching Disability Film Festival" October 14-15, 2022, in Austin.

Stalvey provided staff updates to note that Rey Valldejuli's position will now supervise

the Grants Management team and his title will be Finance and Grants Director. Koren Vogel will take on additional duties including contract development and data monitoring and her position has been reclassified to Council Business Director.

11. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure**

Committee members reviewed updated conflict of interest disclosure information for Council members and staff. No concerns were noted.

12. **Other Updates**

The next scheduled Executive Committee meeting will be held in conjunction with the Council meetings scheduled for February 8-10, 2023.

Adjourn

Chair Durham adjourned the Executive Committee at 4:43 p.m.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date